(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) Yes, Sir, this goal was laid down in the Seventh Plan document but later on technical considerations, this has been discontinued.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Typhoid vaccination has been discontinued from immunisation programme for children on the recommendation of expert group on the grounds of limited efficacy and uncertain disease epidemiology.

N.C.E.R.T. scheme for development of children

*16. SHRI BASUDEV MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Council for Eduational Research and Training (NCERT) has prepared a scheme for comprehensive and all round deveopment of children; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b) The National Policy on Education, 1986, envisages major reforms in content and process of school education for ensuring comprehensive and all-round development of the child. To achieve this objective the NCERT has prepared a frame work for National Curriculum for Elementary and Secondary Education. It envisages the curriculum to be centred around the National Core Curriculum, incorporating the goals of National Development. It recommends a child-centred approach to learning, inter active teaching-learning, pursuing creativity and more emphasis to work experience, health and physical education, etc.

Monitoring of the passage of ships through the maritime zone of India

*17. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 regarding the domestic and foreign ships polluting India's maritime zone are not being enforced and Government do not have statistics regarding such pollutions and the incidents or violation of the Act, for the last three years; and

(b) what procedure is being followed by the Law inforcing agencies to monitor the passage of ships through India's maritime zone and to detect pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a) and (b) All Indian and foreign ships are required to have international pollution prevention certificates and oil record books and these are inspected by authorised officers while the ships are in the ports. In the maritime Zone, Coast Guards are authorised to enforce the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act so far as they relate to pollution by ships. No statistics regarding incidence of pollution are available.

Reservation at Stations in South Eastern Railway

*18. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the passengers at some important railway stations on the South Eastern Railway such as Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Khurda Road and Kharagpur have to wait for hours together to get their reservations; and

(b) if so what remedial steps are being taken by Government to ease the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Some complaints have been received.

(b) The workload is reviewed from time to time and consistent with need, additional counters/staff are provided.

Purchase of Westland helicopters

*19. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1239 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th November, 1987 and state:

(a) whether global tenders for the purchase of helicopters were floated and were processed through normal channels; if not, the reasons therefor; if so, the details of evaluation; and

(b) by what calculations the entire operational higher cost and repairs etc. are proposed to be off-set?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) An Expert Committee consisting of members from the ONGC and I.A.F. evaluated the helicopters of the required type then available in the world market and narrowed down the choice of helicopters to the following:

1. SA 365 N (Dauphin)-manufactured by Aerospatiale, France.

2. S 70—manufactured by M|s. Sikorsky, USA.

3. Bell 412—manufactured by Bell helicopters USA.

Subsequently, this list was enlarged to include the W-30 helicopter offered by M/s. Westland Helicopters, UK, which was then under development.

After evaluation, SA 365 N Dauphin-2 and Westland-30 helicopters were approved for purchase taking into account the technical, operational and financial aspects.

(b) to off set the higher operational cost of Westland helicopters, an operating subsidy amounting to pound 10 million has been received by Pawan Hans Limited from M|s Westland. This amount was calculated on the basis of comparisons of direct operating cost and the financial and other concessions accompanying the sale offers relating to Westland and Dauphin helicopters.

अंधे व्यक्तियों को छूट

*20. **श्री सन्तोष बागड़ोदिया** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या वह सच है कि रेलवे अंधे व्यक्तियों को रेल भाड़ों में छूट देता है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कब से दे रहा है और उसका प्रतिशत कितना है;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि रेल मंत्रालय ने हाल ही में अंधे व्यक्तियों को और अधिक सुविधाएं प्रदान की हैं यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है और क्या उनमें रेल भाड़े में और अधिक छूट दिया जाना भी शामिल है; और

(घ) रेलवे द्वारा अन्धे व्यक्तियों को अन्य किस-किस प्रकार की सहायता दी जाती है?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री महाबीर प्रसाद) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) नेत्रहीन व्यक्तियों के लिए रियायत 1958 से लागू है। इस समय, नेत्रहीन व्यक्ति को अकेले या किसी मार्गरक्षी के साथ यात्रा के लिए पहले